

Amdt. Dated Feb. 10, 2006

Reply to Office Action of Sept. 6, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A swab comprising two primary components:

a straight, wide, flat, elongate body frame(stick) with two ends opposite one another made of pre-formed plastic with rounded edges; and an absorbent applicator material attached at both ends of the body frame, wherein:

~~an applicator, in this case cotton fiber (although other materials such as foam rubber could be used), attached at opposite ends of the body frame.~~

said body frame width is double that of the round sticks used by traditional swabs, providing the amount of body frame width necessary to create an offset length to which the applicator can be affixed, and

said body frame is formed with a square cutout at each end resulting in an offset length, and

the cutout at one end of the body frame is inverse from the cutout at the opposite end of the body frame, and

said absorbent applicator material will be either cotton fiber, foam rubber or any suitable similar type material.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A simplified process for creating the swab including: a swab wherein:

~~Preparing the swab body frame (stick); and a swab body frame is made using lengths of inexpensive plastic sticks which are cut down to a prescribed length by a conveyor system, or~~

a swab body frame is made using rolls of inexpensive plastic material cut down to a prescribed length by a conveyor system, and

a swab body frame is made using an offset metal blade to cut a plastic stick or roll at a prescribed distance along its length to create the swab's body frame, and

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~~Attaching the an absorbent~~ applicator material is attached to the said body frame.